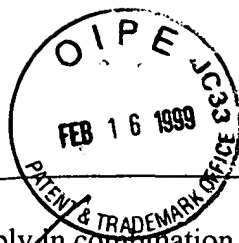


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT



7. (amended) A carrier and docking assembly in combination for removeably interconnecting a PC card device with a computer, comprising:

a docking assembly configured to be fixed in a bay of a computer housing, the docking assembly includes a plug for the carrier, a power connector and a pin connector, the pin connector is adapted for connection with an IDE interface; and

the carrier including a PC card device and a plug, the carrier plug removeably interconnects with the docking assembly plug to enable the PC card device to communicate with the IDE interface;

the PC card device includes two offset slots, one of the slots is a PCMCIA slot and the other slot is a COMPACT FLASH slot.

Add new claim 14

14. (new) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein the docking assembly includes a front, the front has a lock for holding the carrier within the docking assembly.

Support for new claim 14 is found in the specification on page 4, lines 2-3. Support for the amendment of claims 1 and 7 is found in the specification on page 5, lines 9-10.

Respectfully submitted,
THE LAW OFFICES OF KEVIN H. FORTIN

Kevin H. Fortin, Esq.
Twin Oaks Office Plaza, Suite 112
477 Ninth Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94402-1854
PHONE (650) 685-9270
FAX (650) 685-9244
Reg. No: 35,140